United Nations E/2012/L.24

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
24 July 2012

Original: English

Substantive session of 2012
New York, 2-27 July 2012
Agenda item 14 (g)
Social and human rights questions: human rights

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Luis-Alfonso de Alba (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2010/37 of 14 December 2010,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 66/254 of 23 February 2012,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions,[1] and the request contained therein for additional meeting time,

Concerned at the persistent backlog of reports of State parties awaiting consideration, which prevent the Committee from fully discharging its responsibilities under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[2] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17 of 28 May 1985 in an efficient and timely manner,

Welcoming the efforts made by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to improve the efficiency of its working methods, in particular its decision to consider, on a temporary basis, periodic reports over two meetings, with a view to increasing the number of reports of State parties considered by the Committee in order to reduce the current backlog, and encouraging sustained efforts by the Committee in this regard,

1. *Decides* to approve as a temporary measure, and without prejudice to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, the extension of the second annual session of 2013 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights by one week and the first annual session of 2014 by one week, for a total of two extra weeks of meeting time, to be used for the consideration of reports

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2012, Supplement No. 2* (E/2012/22).
[2] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Please recycle

of State parties, with a view to reducing the backlog, and also decides to approve the participation of up to 10 members of the Committee in both pre-sessional working group meetings in 2013, in order to prepare for the consideration of extra reports;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to improve the efficiency of its working methods and to include in its reports to the Council information on the impact of the measures adopted by the Committee to address the backlog in the consideration of reports of State parties.